

In the Claims:

Claim 1 (Currently Amended): A method of deploying and retracting an ear piece attached to a mobile phone, the method comprising the steps of:

deploying the ear piece via a friction wheel;

producing a bias signal upon detection of the ear piece being deployed;

coupling the bias signal to a bias signal port of the mobile phone;

determining if an incoming call ~~exist~~exists upon receiving the bias signal at the bias signal port; and

activating a communications channel if an incoming call exists.

Claim 2 (Original): The method of deploying and retracting an ear piece attached to a mobile phone as recited in claim 1 further comprising the step of deactivating the communications channel upon retraction of the ear piece.

Claim 3 (Currently Amended): A method of deploying and retracting an ear piece attached to a mobile phone, the method comprising the steps of:

deploying the ear piece via a friction wheel;

producing a bias signal upon detection of the ear piece being deployed;

coupling the bias signal to a bias signal port of the mobile phone;

receiving a transmission on a communication channel;

determining if a bias signal ~~exist~~exists at the bias signal port; and

activating a communications channel if the bias signal exists.

Claim 4 (Currently Amended): The method of deploying and retracting an ear piece attached to a mobile phone as recited in claim [[1]]<sup>3</sup> further comprising the step of deactivating the communications channel upon retraction of the ear piece.

Claim 5 (Currently Amended): A mobile communications device comprising:

an attachable device having ~~a deployable and retractable~~ a friction wheel for deploying and retracting an ear piece and at least one output node, the at least one output node comprising an output node containing a bias signal when the ear piece is deployed; and

a mobile phone having at least one signal port, the at least one signal port includes a bias signal port electrically coupled to the at least one output node, the mobile phone activating a communications channel upon receiving an incoming transmission and the bias signal.

Claim 6 (Original): The mobile communications device as recited in claim 5, wherein the attachable device further comprises an engagement slot.

Claim 7 (Currently Amended): The mobile communications device as recited in claim 6 further comprising:

a support member having an engagement member for coupling with the engagement slot;  
at least one signal lead for electrically coupling to the at least one output node, the at least one signal lead ~~comprises~~ comprising a signal lead electrically coupled to the output node and the bias signal port; and

at least one latching mechanism.

Claim 8 (Original): The mobile communications device as recited in claim 7, wherein the mobile phone further comprises at least one slot for receiving the at least one latching mechanism.

Claim 9 (Original): The mobile communications device as recited in claim 5, wherein the mobile phone further comprises an audio port electrically coupled to the at least one signal lead.

Claim 10 (Currently Amended): The mobile communications device as recited in claim 5, wherein the attachable device further comprises:

~~a friction wheel for deploying and retracting the ear piece;~~

a voltage source; and

a switch electrically coupled to the friction wheel, the voltage source, and the output node, the switch having a closed state when the ear piece is deployed and an open state when the ear piece is retracted.

Claim 11 (Currently Amended): The mobile communications device as recited in claim 5 ~~further comprises~~ wherein the mobile phone ~~deactivating~~ deactivates the communications channel upon retraction of the ear piece.